

5

1. A card reader comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a first set of electrical contacts carried upon the housing;
 - a second set of electrical contacts carried upon the housing;
 - a first card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a first electronic card; and
 - a second card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a second electronic card.
2. The card reader set forth in claim 1 wherein the first electronic card comprises a subscriber identity module (SIM) card.
3. The card reader set forth in claim 1 wherein both the first and second electronic cards comprise subscriber identity module (SIM) cards.
4. The card reader set forth in claim 3 wherein the first and second electronic cards are substantially the same size.
5. The card reader set forth in claim 3 wherein the first set of electrical contacts and the second set of electrical contacts are carried upon a common electrical assembly.
6. The card reader of claim 1 in which the electrical contacts comprise elongated contact elements.
7. The card reader of claim 6 in which the elongated contact elements further comprise curved, resilient contact tips adapted for electrical communication with said electronic cards.

8. The card reader of claim 6 wherein the elongated contact elements electrically engage said first and second electronic cards at multiple contact points.

9. The card reader of claim 1 in which the reader operates in a cellular telephone.

10. An electronic card reader for a mobile communications device, comprising:

a housing;

an electrical assembly, the assembly comprising a first set of electrical contacts and a second set of electrical contacts carried upon the housing, further wherein said electrical contacts are adapted for flexible engagement;

a first card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a first subscriber identity module (SIM) electronic card;

a second card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a second subscriber identity module (SIM) electronic card;

wherein the first set of electrical contacts engage the first SIM card and the second set of electrical contacts engage the second SIM card.

11. The electronic card reader of claim 10 further wherein the first card holder slide assembly and the second card holder slide assembly are configured to slidably engage said housing.

12. The electronic card reader of claim 10 in which the SIM cards are substantially rectangular in shape.

13. The electronic card reader of claim 10 further wherein said first and second card holder slide assemblies each comprise a flat base with a plurality of side walls, further wherein the first and second SIM cards each are adapted for placement in a position upon the flat base of the first and second card holder slide assemblies, respectively, such that the SIM cards are oriented substantially between side walls and securely within said holder slide assemblies.

14. The electronic card reader of claim 10 wherein at least one card holder slide assembly comprises an aperture window.

15. The electronic card reader of claim 10 further wherein said first set of electrical contacts are elongated and are provided in a substantially parallel arrangement.

16. The electronic card reader of claim 15 further wherein the elongated electrical contacts each comprise a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the distal ends of said elements are curved to facilitate resilient engagement with said SIM cards.

17. The electronic card reader of claim 16 wherein the first set of electrical contacts are curved in a first direction, and the second set of electrical contacts are curved in a second direction, thereby facilitating an arrangement of said first and second SIM cards in opposed relation to each other within said housing.

18. The electronic card reader of claim 17 in which the first and second SIM cards are substantially parallel to each other when installed in the electronic card reader.

19. The electronic card reader of claim 18 further comprising a third set of electrical contacts and a fourth set of electrical contacts, further wherein said third set of electrical contacts are provided for engagement with said first SIM card, and said fourth set of electronic contacts are provided for engagement with said second SIM card.

20. The electronic card reader of claim 19 wherein said first set of electrical contacts have a first length, and said third set of electrical contacts have a second length different from the first length.

21. A method of engaging an electronic subscriber identification module (SIM) card to a mobile communications device, comprising:

- providing a housing;
- providing a first set of electrical contacts carried upon the housing;
- providing a second set of electrical contacts carried upon the housing;
- providing a first card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a first SIM card; and
- providing a second card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a second SIM card;
- inserting the first SIM card into the first card holder slide assembly to form a first loaded slide assembly;
- placing the first loaded slide assembly into operative position within the housing; and
- engaging the first set of electrical contacts with the first SIM card.

22. The method of claim 21 further comprising the following steps:

- inserting the second SIM card into the second card holder slide assembly to form a second loaded slide assembly;
- placing the second loaded slide assembly into operative position within the housing; and

engaging the second set of electrical contacts with the second SIM card.

23. A system for connecting more than one SIM card to a telephone, said system comprising:

a telephone having a housing;

an electrical assembly, the assembly comprising a first set of electrical contacts and a second set of electrical contacts carried within the housing;

a first card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a first subscriber identity module (SIM) electronic card;

a second card holder slide assembly adapted to receive a second subscriber identity module (SIM) electronic card;

wherein the first set of electrical contacts engage the first SIM card and the second set of electrical contacts engage the second SIM card.

24. The system of claim 23 further wherein the first card holder slide assembly and the second card holder slide assembly are configured to slidably engage said housing.

25. The system of claim 23 in which the SIM cards are substantially rectangular in shape.

26. The system of claim 23 further wherein said first and second card holder slide assemblies each comprise a flat base with a plurality of side walls, further wherein the first and second SIM cards each are adapted for placement in a position upon the flat base of the first and second card holder slide assemblies, respectively, such that the SIM cards are oriented substantially between side walls and securely within said holder slide assemblies.

27. The system of claim 23 wherein at least one card holder slide assembly a window.

28. The system of claim 23 further wherein said first set of electrical contacts are elongated and are provided in a substantially parallel arrangement.

29. The system of claim 28 further wherein the elongated electrical contacts each comprise a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the distal ends of said elements are curved to facilitate resilient engagement with said SIM cards.

30. The system of claim 29 wherein the first set of electrical contacts are curved in a first direction, and the second set of electrical contacts are curved in a second direction, thereby facilitating an arrangement of said first and second SIM cards in opposed relation to each other within said housing.

31. The system of claim 30 in which the first and second SIM cards are substantially parallel to each other when installed in the electronic card reader.

32. The system of claim 31 further comprising a third set of electrical contacts and a fourth set of electrical contacts, further wherein said third set of electrical contacts are provided for engagement with said first SIM card, and said fourth set of electronic contacts are provided for engagement with said second SIM card.

33. The system of claim 32 wherein said first set of electrical contacts have a first length, and said third set of electrical contacts have a second length different from the first length.